

**IDARA N. AKPAN, B.Pharm, MPH, CPH**  
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## EDUCATION

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- 2025 (Expected)     **Doctor of Philosophy, Public Health**  
Health Behavior Research – School of Public Health  
University of North Texas Health Science Center – Fort Worth, TX
- 2020                 **Certified in Public Health**  
National Board of Public Health Examiners
- 2020                 **Master of Public Health, Maternal and Child Health Concentration**  
Department of Health Behavior and Health Systems, School of Public Health  
University of North Texas Health Science Center – Fort Worth, TX
- 2012                 **Bachelor of Pharmacy**  
University of Nigeria, Nsukka

## PROFESSIONAL AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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- 2021- Present       **Graduate Research Assistant**  
School of Public Health  
University of North Texas Health Science Center – Fort Worth, TX  
Faculty Mentor: Erika Thompson, PhD
- 2020 - 2021         **Epidemiologist**  
Tarrant County Public Health – Fort Worth, TX
- 2019 - 2020         **Graduate Research Assistant**  
Building Bridges Initiative  
University of North Texas Health Science Center – Fort Worth, TX  
Supervisor: Amy Raines-Milenkov, DrPH
- 2016 - 2018         **Community Pharmacist**  
Remedia Pharmaceuticals Limited, Lagos, Nigeria  
Medmart Pharmaceuticals Limited, Lagos, Nigeria  
Rockaid Pharmacy, Lagos, Nigeria  
Chard Pharmacy, Lagos, Nigeria
- 2014 - 2015         **Hospital Pharmacist**  
Jahun General Hospital, Jigawa, Nigeria
- 2013 - 2014         **Intern**  
National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC),  
Nigeria

## GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

### ACTIVE PROJECTS

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- 04/01/2022-03/31/2024      **Merck Investigator Initiated Studies Program (#100257)**  
Principal Investigator: Erika Thompson  
*Patient Decision Aid Tool for HPV Vaccination among Adults ages 27-45 Years Old*  
Role: Graduate Research Assistant
- 09/01/2021-08/31/2024      **M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, HPV Vaccination Request for Collaborators**  
Principal Investigator: Erika Thompson  
*Increasing HPV Vaccination in Tarrant County in Community and Clinic Settings*  
Role: Graduate Research Assistant
- 09/01/2021-02/28/2024 (NCE)      **Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT)**  
Principal Investigators: Paula Cuccaro, Sally Vernon  
Sub-Award Principal Investigator; Co-Investigator: Erika Thompson  
*Expanding “All for Them”: A comprehensive school-based approach to increase HPV vaccination through public schools*  
Role: Graduate Research Assistant
- 09/09/2020-07/31/2023      **National Institutes of Health (1OT2HL156812)**  
Sub-Principal Investigators: Jamboor K. Vishwanatha, Erika L. Thompson  
*Texas CEAL Consortium*  
Role: Graduate Research Assistant

### COMPLETED PROJECTS

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- 07/01/2021-08/31/2023      **National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities, U54 Texas Center for Health Disparities Pilot Projects (5U54 MD006882-08)**  
Project Principal Investigator: Erika Thompson; Principal Investigator: Jamboor K. Vishwanatha  
*Adapting an Efficacious Alcohol and Sex Intervention for Young Adults to Disseminate in Communities*  
Role: Graduate Research Assistant

### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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1. Raines-Milenkov, A., Felini, M., Baker, E., Acharya, R., Longanga Diese, E., **Akpan, I.**, Hussain, A., & Wagner, T. (2021). Hepatitis B Virus Awareness, Infection, and Screening Multiethnic Community Intervention for Foreign-Born Populations. *Journal of Community Health, 46*(5), 967–974. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10900-021-00982-5>
2. Raines-Milenkov, A., Felini, M., Baker, E., Acharya, R., Diese, E. L., Onsa, S., Iang, H., Abdi, A., **Akpan, I.**, Hussain, A., Wagner, T., & Hughes, J. (2022). Willingness of a Multiethnic Immigrant Population to Donate Biospecimens for Research Purposes. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health, 24*(3), 705–712. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10903-021-01241-4>
3. Diese, E. L., Raines-Milenkov, A., Felini, M., **Akpan, I.**, Hussain, A., & Baker, E. (2022). Alcohol use among Congolese Babembe male refugees in Tarrant County: A qualitative study. *PloS One, 17*(8), e0272293. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0272293>

4. Longanga Diese, E., Baker, E., **Akpan, I.**, Acharya, R., Raines-Milenkov, A., Felini, M., & Hussain, A. (2022). Health information-seeking behavior among Congolese refugees. *PLoS One*, 17(9), e0273650. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0273650>
5. Lunningham, J. M., **Akpan, I. N.**, Taskin, T., Alkhatib, S., Vishwanatha, J. K., & Thompson, E. L. (2023). Demographic and Psychosocial Correlates of COVID-19 Vaccination Status among a Statewide Sample in Texas. *Vaccines*, 11(4), 848. <https://doi.org/10.3390/vaccines11040848>
6. Galvin, A. M., Garg, A., **Akpan, I. N.**, Spence, E. E., & Thompson, E. L. (2023). Contraception-related knowledge, attitude, belief contexts among US women experiencing homelessness: A scoping review. *Nursing & Health Sciences*, 1–12. <https://doi.org/10.1111/nhs.13039>

## MANUSCRIPTS IN SUBMISSION

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1. Galvin, A. M., **Akpan, I. N.**, Lewis, M.A., Walter, S., & Thompson, E. L. "If it's not broken, I don't go": Reproductive interconception care and women experiencing homelessness.
2. Thompson, E.L., Daley, E.M., **Akpan, I.N.**, & Zimet, G.D. Why we should not close the door on parent-focused HPV vaccine interventions.
3. Taskin, T., **Akpan I. N.**, Maynard, G., Alkhatib, S., Wheldon, C. W., Grace, J., & Thompson, E. L. HPV vaccine shared decision making among adults aged 27-45 years old.
4. Lunningham, J. M., **Akpan, I. N.**, Taskin, T., Alkhatib, S., Vishwanatha, J. K., & Thompson, E. L. COVID-19 Clinical Trial Participation and Interest in Texas.
5. Maynard, G., **Akpan I. N.**, Meadows, R. J., Fulda, K., Patel, D. A., Leidner, V., Taskin, T., Gehr, A., Lu, Y., Matches, S., & Thompson, E. L. Evaluation of an HPV vaccination training implementation in clinical and community settings.
6. Garg A., Galvin A., Diehl A., Griner S., **Akpan, I. N.**, & Thompson E. L. "I don't even understand how they function, it's like magic to me!": A Qualitative Analysis of Information, Motivation, and Behavioral Skills for Contraception Use among Women Experiencing Homelessness.
7. **Akpan I. N.**, Taskin, T., Wheldon, C. W., Rossheim M. E., & Thompson, E. L. Human papillomavirus vaccination uptake among adults after the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's approval for 27-to-45-year-olds.
8. Diener, A. K., Saverine, A. J., **Akpan, I. N.**, Brilleslyper, E., Griner, S. B., & Thompson, E. L. Sexually Transmitted Infection Prevention Services for Women Experiencing Homelessness: A Safety-Net Health System Quality Improvement Initiative.
9. **Johnson, K.C.**, Akpan, I., Kinard, A., Reeves, J., & Griner, S.B. (2023). Self-Sampling Methods for STI Screening among College Women: A Qualitative Study to Identify Opinion Leaders.
10. Meadows, R. J., Gehr, A. W., Lu, Y., Maynard G., **Akpan, I. N.**, Taskin, T., Fulda, K., Patel, D., Matches, S., Ojha, R. P., & Thompson, E. L. Effectiveness of provider communication training for increasing human papillomavirus vaccine initiation at a safety-net health system.

## MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

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1. Garg, A., Galvin, A. M., **Akpan, I. N.**, Agovi, A. M. A., Nguyen, U., & Thompson, E. L. Knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs about the prevention of HPV-related cancers in persons living with HIV: A systematic review.
2. Griner, S.B., Aiken, J., Johnson, K., Garg, A., Galvin, A. M., **Akpan, I. N.**, Kinard, A., & Thompson, E.L. Examining physician discussions and recommendations for prenatal COVID-19 vaccination.
3. Johnson, K. C., Balasundaram, R. B., **Akpan I. N.**, & Griner, S.B. Breastfeeding Initiation and Information Sources by Race.
4. Balasundaram, R. B., Rossheim M. E., Boateng, S., **Akpan I. N.**, & Nguyen, U. Cannabis Use and Oral Health Behaviors: A Nationally Representative Study of U.S. Adults.
5. Wheldon, C. W., Grace, J., **Akpan, I. N.**, Taskin, T., Alkhatib, S., Daley, E., Zimet, G. D., & Thompson, E. L. Development and pilot testing of a decision aid for HPV vaccination among adults ages 27-45 years old in the United States.

6. Thompson, E. L., **Akpan, I. N.**, Taskin, T., Alkhatib, S., Grace, J., Daley, E., Zimet, G. D., & Wheldon, C. W. Provider and Stakeholder Perspectives on Implementing HPV Vaccination Guidelines into Practice.
7. **Akpan I. N.**, Brilleslyper, E., Diener, A. K., Galvin, A. M., Yockey, A. R., & Thompson, E. L. Understanding Pregnancy intention and contraception use among women of reproductive age: 2017-2019 National Survey of Family Growth.

## SOCIAL MEDIA AND BLOGS

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**Akpan, I. N.** (2018). How much do you know about HPV? *Immunization Collaboration of Tarrant County Blog*. <https://www.ictchome.org/post/how-much-do-you-know-about-hpv>

## PRESENTATIONS

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### SEMINAR

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1. Raines-Milenkov, A. & **Akpan, I.** (2019, October). *Self-managed abortions*. Department of Pediatrics and Women's Health, University of North Texas Health Science Center, Fort Worth, Texas.

## CONFERENCE ORAL PRESENTATIONS

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1. Garg, A., Galvin, A.M., **Akpan, I.**, Agovi, A.M.A, Nguyen, U.S., & Thompson, E.L. (2021, October 24-27). *Knowledge, Attitudes, and Beliefs about the Prevention of HPV-Related Cancers in Persons Living with HIV: A Systematic Review*. [Oral Presentation]. American Public Health Association Conference, Denver, CO
2. Alkhatib, S. A., Luningham, J., **Akpan, I. N.**, Taskin, T., Vishwanatha, J. K., & Thompson, E. L. (2023, March 12-15). *Trusted News Sources and Confidence in the Safety of COVID-19 Vaccination* [Oral Presentation]. American Academy of Health Behavior 2023 Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA.
3. Johnson, K.C., Baal Balasundaram, R., **Akpan, I.N.**, & Griner, S.B. (2023, March 12-15) *Breastfeeding Initiation and Information Sources by Race* [Poster presentation]. American Academy of Health Behavior 2023 Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA.
4. Galvin, A. M., **Akpan, I. N.**, Garg, A., Cuccaro, P. M., Thompson, E. L., & Santa Maria, D. M. (2023, November). *HPV-related cancer prevention behaviors among people experiencing homelessness: A systematic review* [Oral Presentation]. UTHHealth Houston Cizik School of Nursing Scholars' Day 2023. Houston, TX.
5. Luningham, J. M., Alkhatib, S. A., Akpan, I. N., Taskin, T., Vishwanatha, J. K., & Thompson, E. L. (2023, November 12-15). *Identifying common factors of COVID-19 information sources and their association with COVID-19 vaccination in Texas* [Oral Presentation] American Public Health Association Annual Meeting & Expo, Atlanta, Georgia, USA.

## CONFERENCE POSTER PRESENTATIONS

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6. Raines-Milenkov, A., Felini, M., Baker, E., Acharya, R., & **Akpan, I., N.** (2020, March). *The Impact of the Lay Health Educator (LHE) Model on Hepatitis B Screening among the Refugee Population*. Research Appreciation Day (RAD), University of North Texas Health Science Center, Fort Worth, TX (Not presented due to COVID-19).
7. Galvin, A.M., Garg, A., Griner, S. B., Diener, A. K., **Akpan, I.**, & Thompson, E.L. (2022, March 13-16). *"The chances are zero": Contraception use and perceived susceptibility to pregnancy among women experiencing homelessness* [Poster presentation]. American Academy of Health Behavior Annual Meeting, Key Largo, FL.
8. Galvin, A.M., **Akpan, I.N.**, Lewis M.A., Walters, S.T., & Thompson E.L. 2022, March 13-16). *"I don't have room for another one": Reproductive interconception care barriers and facilitators among*

- women recently pregnant and homeless [Poster presentation]. American Academy of Health Behavior 2023 Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.
9. Garg, A., Galvin, A., Diener, A., Griner, S., **Akpan, I.**, & Thompson, E. (2022, March). *Information, motivation, and behavioral skills for contraception use among women experiencing homelessness*. Research Appreciation Day, Fort Worth, TX.
  10. Thompson, E. L., Griner, S. B., Galvin, A., Kline, N., **Akpan, I.**, Johnson, K., Webb, N., Cao, J., & Gray, J. (2022, June 9-10). *Adapting a sexual health and alcohol intervention for young adults and community dissemination* [Poster presentation]. 17th Annual Texas Conference on Health Disparities, Fort Worth, TX, USA.
  11. Meadows, R. J., Lu, Y., Maynard, G., **Akpan I. N.**, Gehr, A. W., Taskin, T., Fulda, K., Patel, D. A., Ojha, R. P., & Thompson, E. L. (2023, March 31-April 3). *Effectiveness of a provider education intervention for increasing human papillomavirus vaccine uptake at pediatric clinics within a safety-net health system* [Poster presentation]. National Comprehensive Cancer Network Annual 2023 Conference, Orlando, FL, USA.
  12. **Akpan I. N.**, Yockey, A. R., Galvin, A. M., & Thompson, E. L. (2023, March 12-15). *Pregnancy intention and contraception method use among women aged 15-49 years in the United States: 2017-2019 National Survey of Family Growth* [Poster presentation]. American Academy of Health Behavior 2023 Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.
  13. Johnson, K.C., Griner, S.B., **Akpan, I.N.**, Galvin, A.M., Webb, N., Kline, N.S., Litt, D.M., Lewis M.A., & Thompson E.L. (2023, March 12-15). *Young Adults' Sexual and Reproductive Health Needs Related to Alcohol Use: The Perspectives of Community Stakeholders* [Poster presentation]. American Academy of Health Behavior 2023 Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA.
  14. **Akpan I. N.**, Yockey, A. R., Galvin, A. M., & Thompson, E. L. (2023, March 27-31). *The Role of Pregnancy Intention in the Choice of Contraception Among U.S. Women of Reproductive Age: 2017-2019 National Survey of Family Growth* [Poster presentation]. Research Appreciation Day (RAD), University of North Texas Health Science Center, Fort Worth, TX.
  15. **Akpan I. N.**, Taskin, T., Wheldon, C. W., Rossheim M. E., & Thompson, E. L. (2023, April 17-21). *Human papillomavirus vaccination uptake among adults after the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's approval for 27-to-45-year-olds* [Poster presentation]. 35th International Papillomavirus Conference, Washington, DC, USA.
  16. Thompson, E. L., Maynard, G., **Akpan I. N.**, Meadows, R. J., Fulda, K., Taskin, T., & Patel, D. A. (2023). *Development and Implementation of a Brief Clinic- and Community-Training for HPV Vaccine Provider Recommendation* [Poster presentation]. 35th International Papillomavirus Conference, Washington, DC, USA.
  17. **Akpan I. N.**, Maynard, G., Meadows, R. J., Fulda, K., Patel, D. A., Leidner, V., Taskin, T., Gehr, A., Lu, Y., Matches, S., & Thompson, E. L. (2023, June 8-9). *Examining Outcomes of a Virtual HPV Vaccination Training among Clinical Providers and Staff* [Poster presentation]. 18th Annual Texas Conference on Health Disparities, Fort Worth, TX, USA.
  18. Baptiste, A., Taskin, T., **Akpan I. N.**, Alkhatib, S., & Thompson, E. L. (2023). *Stakeholders' and Parents' Attitudes and Perceptions regarding HPV vaccination for School-Entry in the US: A Systematic Review* [Poster presentation]. University of North Texas Health Science Center, Fort Worth, TX.
  19. **Akpan, I. N.**, Lunningham, J. M., Alkhatib, S., Taskin, T., Vishwanatha, J. K., & Thompson E. L. (2023, November 12-15). *Exploring COVID-19 vaccine and treatment clinical trial awareness and participation: A cross-sectional study* [Poster presentation]. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting & Expo, Atlanta, Georgia, USA.
  20. **Akpan, I.N.**, Griner S. B., Johnson K.C., Galvin A. M., Webb N., Kline N., Litt D. M., Lewis M. A., & Thompson E. L. (2023, November 12-15). *Engaging young adults in sexual health interventions: Perceptions of Community Stakeholders* [Poster presentation]. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting & Expo, Atlanta, Georgia, USA.
  21. Baal Balasundaram, R., Rossheim, M., Boateng, S., **Akpan, I.**, & Nguyen, U.-S. (2023, November 12-15). *Cannabis use and oral health behaviors: A nationally representative study of U.S. adults aged 30-59* [Poster presentation]. American Public Health Association Annual Meeting & Expo, Atlanta, Georgia.

## AWARDS/HONORS

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2021 - 2025	Doctoral Fellowship Award University of North Texas Health Science Center – Fort Worth, TX
2020	Honors, School of Public Health 2020 Dean's List
2020	Delta Omega Public Health Honorary Society
2023	1 <sup>st</sup> Place AAHB 3 Minute Thesis Competition American Academy of Health Behavior 2023 Annual Meeting

## MENTORSHIP

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### University of North Texas Health Science Center, School of Public Health

Date	Name	Institution	Outcome
2023	A'shawna Baptiste	University of Texas at Arlington	Poster Presentation

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### University of North Texas Health Science Center, School of Public Health

#### Teaching Assistant:

Year	Semester	Number	Format	Course
2021	Fall	BACH 5340	On-line	Community Assessment and Program Planning

### School of Health Technology, Jagun, Jigawa, Nigeria

#### Part-time Instructor:

Year	Format	Course
2015	In-person	Pharmacology

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE

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2023	Academic Program Manager Search Student Committee, School of Public Health, University of North Texas Health Science Center
2022 - 2023	Student Representative, Program Directors Committee, School of Public Health, University of North Texas Health Science Center
2019 - 2020	Secretary, International Student Association, University of North Texas Health Science Center

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

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2023 - Present	The Net, Fort Worth, TX
2020	Point-in-Time Homeless Count Tarrant County Homeless Coalition, Fort Worth, TX
2019	Store Mapping Project Healthy Tarrant County Collaboration, Fort Worth, TX

- 2019 Fall Festival  
Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center, Fort Worth, TX
- 2019 ABC Christian Learning Center  
Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center, Fort Worth, TX
- 2018 Habitat for Humanity, Fort Worth, TX
- 2018 Tarrant County Food Bank, Fort Worth, TX
- 2015 Rural Community Medical Outreach, Jigawa, Nigeria